

GEORGE SCHARFENBERG

Located in the lower level of the University Library, George is part of the Technical Processing area of the library. He occupies a workspace that overlooks the library courtyard and affords a generous amount of natural light. George's affiliation with UW-Whitewater extends back to his college days. He is a 1976 graduate of UWW, having earned his BSE degree with a major in history. He went on to pursue a master's degree in Library Science, taking courses from UW-Madison and UW-Milwaukee. He received his master's degree in 1980. His employment with UWW began in September of 1981, when he started working half-time in the University Library. In 1983, he moved into a full-time position and has been with there ever since.

George hails from a small family. He lives by himself and was taking care of his mother until she passed away a little over a year ago. His brother and sister-in-law, Mark and Elaine, do not live too far away. They make their home in Libertyville, Illinois with their son and daughter. George's niece, Amanda, is currently attending college in Iowa and his nephew, John, is going to college in Illinois. Both Mark and Elaine are also UW-Whitewater graduates.

While he doesn't have any pets at this point, George notes that he does love dogs and cats. In lieu of animals, he keeps himself busy with his fascination with history and his love of photography. He is a member of the Whitewater Historical Society and, over the years, he has volunteered his time to that group. He also enjoys taking photographs of just about everything, from people to landscapes. He enjoys traveling, but admits that he hasn't done too much of that since 9-11. In the past, he has traveled to Australia, China, and different parts of Europe. He has also explored some areas of the United States.

George's job involves a great deal of documentation and cataloging of library materials. He is currently working on an extensive project of updating name authorities and cataloging Library of Congress works. He also works on electronic documentation of Wisconsin government and U.S. government works. What he likes most about his work is that it keeps him very busy.

What George likes about UW-Whitewater is the fact that there are many different events offered through the university and he likes to attend various functions on campus. He enjoys shows presented by the Young Auditorium and he is proud to be a financial contributor, helping to support the events that are brought to the campus via that resource. He fondly remembers the time when Rich Little performed on campus. George wanted to get a picture of the comedian and ended up having his own picture taken with Rich after the show.

As for the recent changes that have been occurring on campus, George expresses mixed feelings. He feels that some changes are questionable, while others are necessary and improve the campus. He seems to be quite content with his work and with being a part of the university for almost 30 years.